

(Ross Township, PA) - U.S. Congressman Jason Altmire (PA-4) held a check presentation ceremony on Sunday to announce that Berkeley Hills Fire Company has received a grant in the amount of \$142,410 to purchase personal protective equipment and a new breathing air cascade system. The grant was awarded under the fiscal year 2007 Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) program.

The award announcement followed a grants workshop that Congressman Altmire held at the Berkeley Hills Fire Company in June to assist local volunteer fire departments in applying for the AFG program. Congressman Altmire has hosted similar workshops throughout the district. AFG grants supply first responders with the necessary equipment and training to enable them to more effectively protect local communities and respond to emergency situations.

"Many communities in western Pennsylvania rely on our volunteers to keep their families, homes, and businesses safe," said Congressman Altmire. **"Today's announcement is good news for Ross Township's residents and business owners, and these funds and equipment are crucial to helping Berkeley Hills better fulfill its mission to protect life and property."**

"I am very pleased by Berkeley Hills Fire Company's success in winning this award," added Congressman Altmire. **"I plan to continue to help local fire departments and other emergency responders in applying for federal grant money. This is a priority for my office and we have dedicated a staff person who is responsible for helping local first responders successfully navigate the federal system. I encourage any of them to contact my office directly for assistance."**

Congressman Altmire and his staff can be contacted at (724) 378-0928 or by visiting his district office at 2110 McLean Street in Aliquippa.